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TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

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SUBJECT: MEETING OF JOINT WORKING GROUP ON MEDICAL
COOPERATION

1. MEETING OF MEDICAL COOPERATION JWG CONCLUDED P.M.
THURSDAY JULY 10 WITH SIGNING OF REPORT OF THE MEETING
BY CO-CHAIRMEN. IN ADDITION TO TECHNICAL AREAS DISCUSSED,
REPORT INCLUDED AS APPENDIX TEXT OF DRAFT HEALTH
AGREEMENT WHICH AFTER FURTHER REVIEW OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS
WOULD BE ANTICIPATED COULD BE FINALIZED IN NEAR FUTURE.
REPORT WILL BE FORWARDED ASAP.

2. ALTHOUGH EGYPTIAN SIDE CAME WITH HOPES OF USING
OCCASION TO SIGN BOTH HEALTH AGREEMENT AND NAMRU
AGREEMENT, TIME-FRAME DID NOT PERMIT NECESSARY
REQUIREMENTS AND FORMALITIES TO BE COMPLETED FOR THE
FORMER AND INTERNAL RESOLUTION OF SEVERAL POINTS AND
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NEGOTIATION WITH THE EGYPTIANS IN CONNECTION WITH THE

LATTER. WHILE SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTED ON THAT SCORE, EGYPTIANS SEEMED UNDERSTANDING OF MATTER AND OTHERWISE SATISFIED WITH PROGRESS OF COOPERATION AND SUCCESS OF MEETING. CO-CHAIRMAN PAID COURTESY CALL ON ACTING SECRETARY TODAY.

3. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. PRESS RELEASE ISSUED THROUGH HEW CHANNELS AT CONCLUSION OF JWG MEETING FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT. THE MINISTER OF HEALTH OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT, DR. FOUAD MOHY EL-DIN, AND DR. THEODORE COOPER, HEW ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH, TODAY SIGNED A REPORT OF THE U.S.-EGYPTIAN JOINT WORKING GROUP ON MEDICAL COOPERATION WHICH IS EXPECTED TO LEAD TO A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT ON BILATERAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH. THE SIGNING CEREMONY CLIMAXED A WEEK OF MEETINGS WHICH ESTABLISHED THE BASIS FOR COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES IN THE AREAS OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH, HEALTH MANPOWER AND MEDICAL EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, HEALTH SERVICES, AND PHARMACEUTICALS, BIOLOGICS, AND MEDICAL PRODUCTS.

THE MEETINGS REPRESENTED THE SECOND SESSION OF THIS JOINT WORKING GROUP ON MEDICAL COOPERATION, ONE OF THE FIVE JOINT WORKING GROUPS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE U.S.-EGYPTIAN JOINT COOPERATION COMMISSION. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN SINCE THE FIRST SESSION IN CAIRO LAST NOVEMBER HAVE BEEN HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL, ACCORDING TO CO-CHAIRMEN DR. COOPER AND MINISTER MOHY EL-DIN. BOTH PARTIES AGREE THAT THE TIME IS PROPITIOUS TO MOVE AHEAD WITH A PROGRAM CONCERNED BOTH WITH IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS AS WELL AS ACTIVITIES WHICH ESTABLISH A FIRM FOUNDATION FOR LONG TERM COOPERATION.

THE JOINT WORKING GROUP ON MEDICAL COOPERATION REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD IN BILATERAL COOPERATION. NOT ONLY DOES IT PROVIDE A MECHANISM UNDER WHICH ALL U.S.-EGYPTIAN BILATERAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES CAN BE FOSTERED AND COORDINATED, BUT ALSO IT SERVES TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF HEALTH AS AN AREA OF PRODUCTIVE COOPERATION.

AMONG THE ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR UPCOMING MONTHS ARE A CONFERENCE ON SCHISTOSOMIASIS, ONE OF THE MAJOR DISEASE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROBLEMS IN EGYPT AND OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, AND A PROGRAM TO IMPROVE QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES IN THE PRODUCTION OF PHARMACEUTICALS.

DURING HIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON, THE MINISTER VISITED THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE, AND THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL IN ATLANTA. FOLLOWING THE CLOSE OF THESE MEETINGS, DR. MOHY EL-DIN,

HIS WIFE, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE JOINT WORKING GROUP
WILL DEPART FOR NEW YORK IN ORDER TO TOUR SEVERAL RESEARCH
INSTITUTES, HOSPITALS, AND PHARMACEUTICAL AND MEDICAL
PRODUCTS PRODUCTION LABORATORIES. PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE,
MINISTER MOHY EL-DIN EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO DR. COOPER
TO VISIT CAIRO IN ORDER TO CONDUCT THE NEXT MEETING OF
THE JOINT WORKING GROUP. INGERSOLL

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